Telecast of the proceedings of assemblies

213. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:

SHRI MISA R. GANESAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal to telecast the proceedings of Assemblies; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Request for telecasting the proceedings of State Legislatures have been received from Karnataka, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Orissa and Union Territory of Pondicherry.

Revenue from Commercial on Vividh Bharati

214. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:

SHRI MISA R. GANESAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to to state:

(a) what is the total revenue earned from the commercials on the Vividh Bharati and Primary Channels during 1991-92; and

(b) what is the target fixed for the year 1992-93?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The total gross revenue earned by All India Radio from commercials during 1991-92 was Rs. 52.73 crores — Rs. 34.89 crores from Vividh Bharati and Rs. 17.84 crores from Primary Channel.

(b) The target fixed for the year 1992-93 is Rs. 60.00 crores.

Contract for Arabsat Satellite

215. SHRI MISA R. GANESAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of the lease contract for ARABSAT satellite?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): An agreement has been entered into with ARABSAT Organisation for the lease of twelve C-Band Transponders. This lease provides back-up to essential services and augments INSAT system capacity. Initially, the lease was on ARABSAT-1B satellite stationed at 26 Degree longitude for a period of two years starting on 1st October, 1989. The ARABSAT-1B was titled towards India for better coverage. The lease was extended for a further period of two years from 1st October, 1991 to 30th September, 1993. The lease has been transferred recently to ARABSAT-1C satellite at 31 Degree East.

Out of the twelve transponders, seven transponders are being used by Department of Telecommunications (DOT) and five by Doordarshan. The lease charges are at the rate of US $ 0·8 Million per transponder per year. The leased transponders are being put into effective use.

ARABSAT is a consortium of ARAB countries. The ARABSAT satellites are meant primarily for providing Satellite Communication services to its member countries. The lease of ARABSAT transponders to INDIA is on a pre-emptable basis, which means that the requirements of the ARABSAT countries would have the priority.

फिल्मों का आयात

216 श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सरकार द्वारा प्रति वर्ष कितनी फिल्मों का आयात किया जा रहा है